

There's a lot going on at Lehigh Valley Health Network. In case you didn't catch all the latest news, here's a recap of what happened this week. Here are links to Mission Central posts, the latest issues of CheckUp and Magnet Attractions, and Lehigh Valley Health News, our blog on LVHN.org containing timely information and health network news. You also can link to Mission Central's "Contact Us" page [a, citation and similar papers at core.ac.uk](#)

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[Friends of Nursing Celebrates Patient Care at LVHN](#)

Read about and relive the Friends of Nursing Celebration held May 7, embracing the theme "The Future Begins with You."

[Stories from Friends of Nursing 2014](#)

Read the first post in our Friends of Nursing series, where we share some of the stories shared during the 2014 Friends of Nursing celebration.

[Medallion Lecture Speaker Encourages LVHN Nurses To 'Think Wild' While Envisioning the Future](#)

Renowned nursing innovator shared her thoughts at Tuesday's Medallion Lecture, presented by LVHN as part of our National Nurses Week observance.

[Nominate Your Star for a Service Excellence Award](#)

Recognize colleagues who do amazing things by nominating them for a Star Celebration Service Excellence Award.

[Join Our Memorial Day Observance on May 15](#)

All colleagues are invited to honor those who died serving our country in times of war.

[Join us at Musikfest! Aug. 1-10 in Bethlehem](#)

During the 10 days of Musikfest, LVHN will operate health tents at four locations — and we need your help!

[Win Valley Preferred Cycling Center Tickets](#)

Valley Preferred is offering LVHN colleagues a chance to win two tickets to a 2014 Valley Preferred Cycling Center racing event.

[Wellness Wednesday – Is Gluten-free the Way to Be?](#)

Learn the symptoms of celiac disease and gluten sensitivity, and see if you should ask your primary

care physician about a gluten-free diet.

[Our Epic Super Heroes: The Super Users](#)

The Epic transformation is going to need its share of super-skilled super users to help all of us soar.

[Aaron Katz, MD, Wants You to Lead a Healthy, Rewarding Life – VIDEO](#)

He is a family medicine physician who sees patients at the new LVPG Primary Care-Fogelsville.



**Read the latest
issue of CheckUp**



**Ask Questions
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READ LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NEWS

a blog on LVHN.org containing
timely health information and
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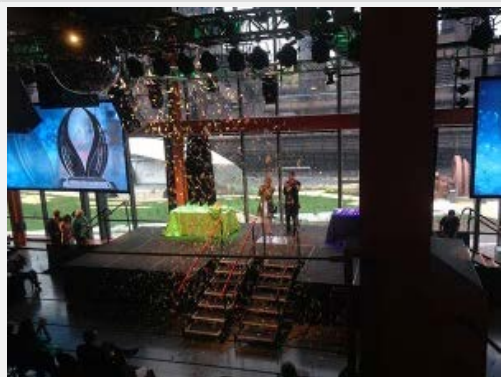
< Our Epic Super Heroes: The Super Users for Outpatient Go-Live

Win Valley Preferred Cycling Center Tickets >

Friends of Nursing Celebrates Patient Care at LVHN

An enthusiastic crowd of nearly 800 people enjoyed an evening celebrating Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) nursing colleagues at the Friends of Nursing event held May 7 at Bethlehem's SteelStacks. Embracing the theme "The Future Begins with You," the evening included a re-enactment of the [Magnet Prize®](#) award ceremony featuring Linda Lewis, executive vice president and chief officer of the American Nurses Credentialing Center, and Roy Simpson, vice president, nursing informatics at Cerner Corporation.

"You are probably wondering, who won the Magnet Prize?" Simpson asked the audience. In unison, he and Lewis exclaimed, "Lehigh Valley Health Network." Tina Turner's "Simply the Best" and a shower of confetti completed the scene as the Magnet Prize was presented to telehealth clinical coordinators Sharon Kromer, RN, and Lori Yesenofski, RN, along with vice president for telehealth services, Joe Tracy. LVHN received the Magnet Prize in recognition of our extensive telehealth services provided by LVHN, and the role of nurses in that innovative care delivery model.



The moment LVHN won the Magnet Prize® award was reenacted at the Friends of Nursing celebration.



Josephine Ritz was honored for a major career milestone: 65 years as an LVHN colleague.

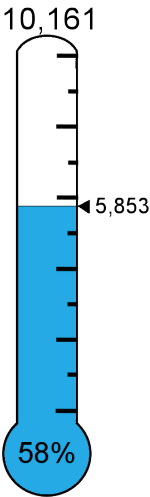
said Ron Swinfard, MD, LVHN president and chief executive officer. "Her perseverance and enthusiasm for nursing is unsurpassed, and we are proud to recognize her for this incredible achievement."

The Friends of Nursing event is held each year during National Nurses Week and honors our Magnet nurses and clinicians for their exceptional work. This year, 30 individuals and six care teams were recognized for their outstanding, dedicated and creative work with our patients, eliciting numerous rounds of applause.

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The following is a complete list of 2014 Friends of Nursing award recipients:

Cynthia Cappel – Division of Education

Anne Panik Transformational Leadership Award

Daniele Shollenberger – Neurosurgery

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Award

Margery Bigland – Pediatrics

The Medical Staff Technical Partner Award

Brigitte Naratil – In-patient Hospice

The Medical Staff Technical Partner Award

Laura Williams – Respiratory

The Medical Staff Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Respiratory Care

Ellen Velazquez – Cedar Crest College

John M. Eisenberg, MD Award for Excellence as a Student Nurse

GI/Pulmonary Endoscopy Unit Staff Members

Betty E. Andersen, RN Award for Professional Nursing Certification

Joyce Najarian – Inpatient Diabetes

The Florence Nightingale Exemplary Professional Practice Award

Dr. Usman Shah – Hematology/Oncology Associates

Professional Excellence Council Physician Friends of Nursing Award

Carla Jane Saveri – Case Management

Award for Excellence as a Case Manager

Teri Lippowitsch-Vogel – Trauma Neuroscience ICU

Trauma Nursing Award

Elizabeth Cooper – 6K

Dr. & Mrs. Donald H. Gaylor Medical-Surgical Nursing Award

Alyssa Bruchko – 6K

Award for Excellence as a Nurse Preceptor

Nicole D'Alessio – Pediatric Medical-Surgical Unit

M.G. Asnani, MD Award for Excellence in Pediatric Nursing

Jack Dunleavy – Organizational Development

LVHN Department of Legal Services Award for Excellence in the Promotion of Patient Care

Rochelle Reidnauer – Health Network Laboratories

Kathy Mundt-Bulla Memorial Award for Excellence as a Laboratorian

David Lorchak – Pharmacy-LVH-Cedar Crest

Award for Excellence as a Pharmacist

Jeanette Tomasi – Pharmacy-LVH-Cedar Crest

Award for Excellence as a Pharmacist

Lisa LePage – Occupational Therapy-LVH-Cedar Crest

The Bill and Nancy Mason Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Rehabilitation Services

Diane Gerny – Operating Room-LVH-Muhlenberg

Joseph J. Prorok, MD Award for Excellence in Perioperative Nursing

Marisa Kauker – Radiation Oncology

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Keri Fegley Suchy Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Ambulatory Care

Lisa Bickel – Hospice

Dr. Fred Fister Award for Excellence in Hospice Nursing

5A Transitional Trauma Unit Staff Members

The Fleming Award to Recognize a Department that Demonstrates a Commitment to Structural Empowerment

Nancy Kantor – Progressive Coronary Unit

The Fleming Nursing Caring Awards

Maryanne Lubinensky – 6 Tower

The Fleming Nursing Caring Awards

Labor & Delivery/Perinatal/ Triage Unit Staff Members

The Fleming Award to Recognize a Department that Promotes Family Presence

Open Heart Unit Staff Members

The Fleming Award to Recognize New Knowledge, Innovations & Improvements

Kirsten Gustafson – Behavioral Health

Psychiatric Nursing Award

Sandra Dee Witman – Float Pool

The Medical Staff Patient Observation Assistant Award

Brenda Gray – 4K

The Medical Staff Administrative Partner Award

Christine Reichard – 6 Tower

The Medical Staff Administrative Partner Award

Heleanna Immerso – Behavioral Health

The Medical Staff Award for Excellence in a Care Delivery Technician Role

Susan Hassey – Pediatrics

Josephine Ritz, RN Nursing Award for Excellence in Patient and Family Teaching

Melissa Bubbenmoyer – Cardiac Intensive Care Unit

The Tewari Award for Cardiovascular Nursing

ABC Family Pediatricians Staff Members–Bethlehem Township

Lehigh Valley Health Network Board of Trustees Patient Satisfaction Award for Ambulatory Services

Pediatric Medical-Surgical Unit and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit Staff Members

Senior Management Council Patient Satisfaction Award for Inpatient Care

View photographs from the event in the gallery below. Check back on Mission Central every Friday to read some of the stories shared during the celebration.



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Stories from Friends of Nursing 2014

Colleagues packed SteelStacks in Bethlehem on May 7 to celebrate The Future Begins with You – the theme of our 2014 Friends of Nursing celebration. Held during National Nurses Week, the annual event honors, energizes and inspires our Magnet™ nurses and clinicians. Here are some of the stories shared during the celebration. Look for more stories published on Fridays in the weeks to come.

Inspired to Lead

Cynthia Cappel, RN, the Anne Panik Transformational Leadership Award

recipient, believes she found her professional life's work – and her passion – in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Institute of Medicine "Future of Nursing Report." She has led our health network to address and meet those recommendations associated with education, including our goal for 80 percent of our nurses to have a baccalaureate degree in nursing by 2020, and attaining and serving as project director for a \$1.4-million grant to initiate and maintain a Nurse Residency Program. Earlier this year, Cappel was selected as a recipient of the prestigious Nightingale of Pennsylvania Award for Nurse Administration.



Champion for Brain Injury Patients



The recipient of the **Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Award, Daniele Shollenberger, CRNP**, is an invaluable clinical leader to the neurosurgery group and trauma team. As coordinator of the Concussion and Head Trauma Program, Shollenberger sees more than 200 patients per month, including an infant who endured parental abuse. She not only managed the baby's traumatic brain injury over several

years, but also recognized the need for comprehensive documentation and legal testimony. So, what did the future hold for this now 9-year-old child? A complete physical recovery without impairment and adoption into a loving family.

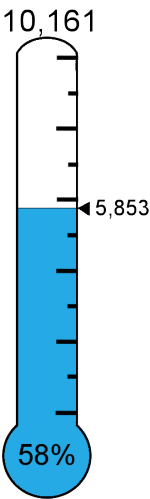
Sharing Care and Good Cheer

Recipient of one of our **Medical Staff Technical Partner Awards, Marjorie Bigland**, is our own *Mary Poppins*, hailing from England, riding her bicycle to work, and singing lullabies to her patients on the pediatric unit. Bigland also volunteers at our drive-through flu clinic, Musikfest and the Muhlenberg Summer Festival.

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Honoring Veterans is Close to her Heart



The second recipient of the **Medical Staff Technical Partner Award**, **Brigitte Naratil**, has been a certified nurse's aide on our inpatient hospice unit for the past 17 years. She recently was selected by the unit's medical and nursing leadership to attend a conference on death and dying with her medical and nursing colleagues in Santa Fe, N.M. Because of a passion fueled by her World War II veteran father, Naratil

created a standard for all veterans – upon admission to the hospice unit, they are given an American flag and certificate of appreciation, and red and blue stars are placed on each side of the door, illuminated by white battery-operated flickering candles; the intent is to signify this individual has made his or her final sacrifice.

She Builds Trust and Respect

As a therapist assigned primarily to the pediatric intensive care unit, **Laura Williams, RRT** recipient of the **Medical Staff Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Respiratory Care** was the only caregiver able to gain the trust and compliance of a young patient with multiple admissions for a chronic respiratory illness, who had learned to manipulate and disrespect her caregivers. Williams stood strong, redirected her and held her accountable. After several weeks and improvements in her breathing, as a reward prior to her transfer off the unit, Williams allowed the child to pick out a gift from the gift shop, paid for by Williams. Unfortunately, in the transfer process, the toy got discarded. Undeterred, she went through *many* trash bags until she found the toy. You may think it was just a toy, but for this child it was a symbol of something much greater... a bond between a child starving for direction and a stranger who chose her profession because of her love for children... a little girl holding the hand of someone willing to spend a little bit of time with her in the absence of parents.



Reaching Patient through Barrier of Dementia



For **The Dr. John M. Eisenberg Award for Excellence as a Student Nurse**, faculty members of our local baccalaureate nursing programs were asked to nominate a nursing student. This year's recipient is **Ellen Velazquez** from Cedar Crest College. Among her stellar attributes: she has the highest grade-point average in the nursing program, and she presented a poster on pressure ulcers at the Eastern Nursing

Research Society's Annual Meeting. In addition to her strong academic record, Velazquez has the heart of a nurse, as she describes a pivotal day in her young career: "I was assigned to a 94-year-old female with cellulitis, who suffered with dementia. As I completed morning care, the patient exhibited non-compliant behaviors and screamed uncontrollably. Exhausted and questioning if I was going to be able to make it through nursing school, I suddenly remembered learning about reminiscence therapy for patients

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with dementia. I pulled a chair over to the patient's bed, sat down, looked her in the eyes and simply stated, 'Talk to me... tell me about your life.' What came next took me by surprise. The patient's whole demeanor changed. A once frustrated, confused and depressed patient turned into a smiling, eager to talk and vividly remembering woman. As she spoke about her life, I held her hand, and I noticed a tear run out of her eye. I left that clinical day realizing how much I had fallen in love with being a nurse. She taught me that it is the simple things that we do as nurses that make the difference in quality patient care."

This entry was posted by [Jenn Fisher](#) on May 9, 2014 at 1:04 pm, and is filed under [Be Inspired](#), [Connect with Colleagues](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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Medallion Lecture Speaker Encourages LVHN Nurses To ‘Think Wild’ While Envisioning the Future

Quality health care relies on evidence-based practice, but when it's time to innovate, [Patricia Yoder-Wise, EdD, RN](#), says you need to push the barrier. "When we think about the future, we need to disrupt our thinking," says Yoder-Wise, president of The Wise Group and professor and dean emerita, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing. "Unique thinking helps us jump ahead and innovate new and better ways to care for patients."



Tuesday's Medallion Lecture speaker Patricia Yoder-Wise, center, is flanked by Lehigh Valley Health Network colleagues Ann Panik, Patricia Hoak, Cindy Capel and Heidi Del Rey.

Yoder-Wise shared her thoughts at Tuesday's Medallion Lecture, presented by Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) as part of our National Nurses Week observance. The Texas resident is considered an innovator and thought-leader in nursing, and has authored two award-winning books, as well as numerous articles on leadership and management. Her Medallion Lecture topic, "What if We are the Future of Nursing," urged more than 200 nurses in the audience at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest's auditorium to embrace the power they have as innovators in their profession.

Three steps to innovative ideas

To kick-start their efforts, Yoder-Wise suggested the three steps of the [Wise Forecast Model©](#) to help initiate ideas and plans for the future – *learn widely, think wildly and act wisely*.

"*Learning widely* isn't limited to your area of nursing, though that is important," she says. "Learn about other aspects of nursing too – but don't stop there. Learn from a variety of non-nursing disciplines, such as business, technology, engineering and even science fiction. Other disciplines and interest areas can inspire great ideas."

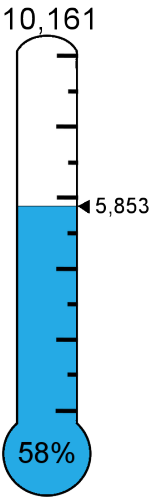
Think wildly is the next step to innovation. "This is where we tend to limit ourselves," Yoder-Wise says. "Remain open to the possibilities and not limit yourself to what the evidence shows. This is the stage where you need to question the rules." To enhance wild thinking, she recommends finding a group of people who support the brainstorming model and won't shoot down ideas. "Ask your 'wildest thinking' friends to brainstorm with you – even those outside of nursing – because great ideas come from everywhere."

As the last step in future visioning, she advised the attendees to *act wisely*. "This stage is where you look at the ideas and decide: What's interesting? What's feasible? What does the evidence show to support this idea, or what type of evidence is missing? Use these parameters to decide how to proceed wisely."

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What if?

Future visioning is a concept embraced by LVHN nursing colleagues. At today’s event, the *Future for Nursing 2020* vision statement posters were unveiled and provided to each nursing department to display in work areas. The vision statements are the result of several months of discussion and collaboration to develop concepts that will shape the future of nursing here at LVHN. The statements cover a range of categories from educational goals to population health strategies.

Looking to the future, Yoder-Wise says one question can open doors to ideas. “What if?” is the key question we need to ask,” she says. “Seeking out ‘what if’ ideas will not only make our own future better as nurses, it improves the future for our patients.”

[Watch video from 2014 Medallion Lecture featuring Patricia Yoder-Wise, EdD, RN, at Lehigh Valley Health Network](#)

(Please note you must be logged on to our intranet with Internet Explorer in order to access the videos. You also need to have Microsoft Silverlight installed on your computer. If the links do not open properly, try refreshing your browser. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact information services at 610-402-8303.)

This entry was posted by [Jenn Fisher](#) on May 7, 2014 at 10:22 am, and is filed under [Live Healthy](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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Nominate Your Star for a Service Excellence Award

Now is your chance to recognize colleagues who do amazing things by nominating them for a Star Celebration Service Excellence Award. These awards recognize colleagues who demonstrate exceptional customer service, work efficiently, design creative reward and recognition programs, perform community service or go the extra mile. If you need help completing your nomination, these members of the Star Celebration committee can help:

- Mary Ellen Bedics, 484-884-1039
- Luereane Mells, 484-884-0500
- Vanessa Taggart, 484-884-1970

[Submit your nominations](#) today. Nominations will be accepted until May 31. Award recipients will be honored at the annual Star Celebration gala on Sept. 12 at the Holiday Inn, Fogelsville.

This entry was posted by [Rick Martuscelli](#) on May 6, 2014 at 11:40 am, and is filed under [Celebrate](#), [Learn](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

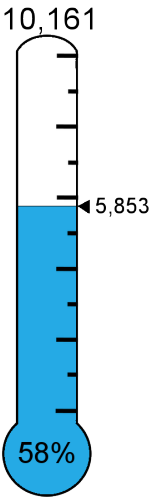
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Join Our Memorial Day Observance on May 15

All colleagues are invited to join LVHN's May 15 Memorial Day observance to honor those who died serving our country during war. Originally established to honor Civil War dead in 1868 and called Decoration Day, the holiday later was renamed Memorial Day to recognize the fallen from all conflicts. While the annual federal observance is the last Monday in May, our event is Thursday, May 15 to enable more colleague participation.



Our observance will consist of two identical 15-minute ceremonies. The first, from 10:15-10:30 a.m., will take place immediately after the May Leader to Leader meeting. If you are not scheduled to attend that meeting, you can view a simulcast at the following locations:

- Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)-Cedar Crest, Kasych Family Pavilion, Medical Imaging of Lehigh Valley conference rooms 6,7,8
- LVH-17th Street auditorium
- LVHN-Mack Boulevard auditorium
- LVH-Muhlenberg, the Frank Banko Educational Conference Center rooms B, C, D
- LVH-Hazleton, Employment & Technology Center, third floor, training room

The second ceremony will take place from noon-12:15 p.m. in the LVH-Cedar Crest auditorium. All colleagues are invited to attend. This event will not be simulcast. Both ceremonies will include participation by a veteran of each of the following five conflicts: World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War and the War on Terror.

All service colleagues (active duty military, honorably discharged veterans and members of the guard and reserve) are invited to wear their uniforms (in whole or in part; caps and fatigue jackets acceptable, class A, B or C acceptable) to work on May 15. Consult with your supervisor, as appropriate, if you plan to wear your uniform.

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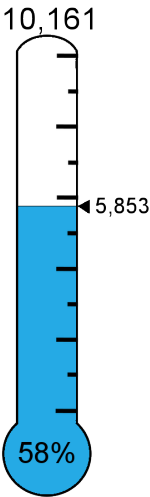
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Join us at Musikfest! Aug. 1-10 in Bethlehem

Look for your letter in the mail!

During the 10 days of the festival, Aug. 1-10, we will operate health tents at four locations — and **we need your help!** We're hoping you will put your passion in action and represent our health network. Tasks include taking blood pressures, completing paperwork and caring for minor medical problems such as bee stings, cuts and bruises. More serious problems will be referred to on-site ambulance personnel. We need both clinical and nonclinical colleagues for shifts ranging from 2 ½ to 4 hours. Please refer to [the schedule](#) to see which shifts work for you.

Please note that family members who wish to volunteer must be at least 14 years of age and volunteer with a parent at the same location. To volunteer individually without a parent, volunteers must be 19 years of age or older. Children under high school age are not allowed to accompany staff during shifts.

Signing up is easy. Simply review the schedule to select your times, [including your second and third choices](#), and then call 610-402-CARE. Be prepared to provide your employee ID, office address, job title and department cost center. This information can be obtained through API.

Registration will be accepted until Friday, July 18.

This entry was posted by [Admin](#) on May 8, 2014 at 9:09 am, and is filed under [Connect with Colleagues](#), [Help Others](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

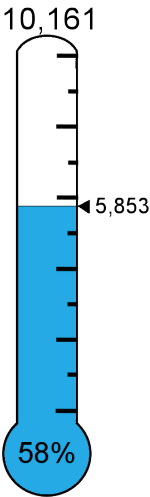
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< Friends of Nursing Celebrates Patient Care at LVHN

Stories from Friends of Nursing 2014 >

Win Valley Preferred Cycling Center Tickets

As the naming sponsor of the Valley Preferred Cycling Center in Trexlertown, Valley Preferred is offering colleagues a chance to win two tickets to a 2014 Valley Preferred Cycling Center racing event. Tickets can be used at any of the 12 season races scheduled Fridays from June 6 to Aug. 29.

Through a random drawing, 100 lucky winners will be selected. To register,

email elissa_m.pape@valleypreferred.com or call 610-969-0467. Provide your name, department, phone number and email address.

The registration deadline is May 20. Winners will be announced May 28 on Mission Central.



This entry was posted by [Admin](#) on May 9, 2014 at 9:30 am, and is filed under [Celebrate](#), [Connect with Colleagues](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

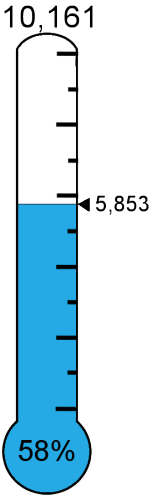
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»

Wellness Wednesday – Is Gluten-free the Way to Be?



One colleague asks, “Everything is coming out ‘gluten-free.’ How is this beneficial, and how does gluten affect people with celiac disease?”

“Adhering to a gluten-free diet is critical for patients with celiac disease because it is the only treatment for patients suffering from this chronic autoimmune disease,” says [Adam Paul, DO](#), a pediatric gastroenterologist with [Pediatric Specialists of the Lehigh Valley](#). “However, many people who do not have celiac disease may feel numerous health benefits while practicing a gluten-free diet. These individuals may have gluten sensitivity.”

Widely found in baked goods, gluten is one of the main proteins in wheat, barley and rye. For people with celiac disease, gluten causes the production of antibodies that damage the lining of the small intestine. This limits its ability to absorb nutrients and puts you at risk for serious health problems.

A study published in the *American Journal of Gastroenterology* found that nearly 80 percent of people with celiac disease do not know they have it. Celiac disease often has no symptoms for years and is discovered because of the complications it causes, such as osteoporosis, infertility and intestinal cancers.

People who have gluten sensitivity may feel better if they avoid it in their diet. “Unfortunately, unlike celiac disease, there are no reliable tests available for gluten sensitivity,” Paul says. “Therefore, once celiac disease is ruled out, patients are free to eliminate gluten as a trial for several weeks to determine its effect on their symptoms.”

The phrase “gluten-free” recently was standardized by the FDA. Doctors diagnose the need for a gluten-free diet based partly on symptoms that keep returning, including:

- Joint pain and inflammation
- Digestive problems, including abdominal pain and bloating
- Indigestion and acid reflux
- Constipation or diarrhea

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KEYWORDS

- Fatigue
- Anxiety, mood swings or depression
- Vitamin deficiencies
- Skin rashes and itching
- Migraines
- Canker sores
- Tingling in the hands and feet

“Gluten-free diets are on the rise in pop culture, and the food industry is catching on,” Paul says. “This likely explains the increased visibility of gluten-free food labeling and offerings in restaurants.”

This week’s Wellness Wednesday challenge: If you feel you have symptoms related to eating gluten-containing foods, schedule an appointment with your primary care physician to see if you might have celiac disease. After celiac testing has been completed, try going gluten-free for one week. See if it has any positive effects on your overall well-being. After one week, eat foods containing gluten again, and see if those symptoms return. If so, then a gluten-free diet may be right for you.

Most regular breads, pizza, cereals, pastas, cakes and cookies contain gluten. Even some lipsticks and medications contain small amounts of gluten. Many processed foods contain hidden gluten, including:

- Potato chips and French fries
- Candies
- Cold cuts, hot dogs, salami and sausage
- Seasoned tortilla chips
- Soy sauce
- Canned soups
- Rice mixes
- Veggie burgers
- Gravy

Look for labels that tell you the product is gluten-free, but avoid having too much processed foods in your diet. Try to fill your with whole, unprocessed foods.

“Before embarking on a gluten-free diet, people should be tested for celiac disease by a gastroenterologist if they are having symptoms associated with ingesting foods containing gluten,” Paul says. “Starting a gluten-free diet before a thorough evaluation by a physician may make the screening tests unreliable, and a diagnosis may be missed.”

Do you want to see a Wellness Wednesday based on one of your questions? Leave a comment and let us know what you want to read about.

Have you participated in the [FY14 People Goal](#)? Go to [MyPopulytics.com](#) and set your own wellness goal. Not only will setting your goal keep you healthier, but it also will make you eligible to win monthly prizes and a grand prize at the end of fiscal year 2014. When you’re healthy, you’re at your best for colleagues, patients and their families. Help LVHN serve as a role model by taking steps to improve your wellness.

This entry was posted by [Amanda Coe](#) on May 7, 2014 at 1:30 pm, and is filed under [Live Healthy](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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Our Epic Super Heroes: The Super Users for Outpatient Go-Live



We're heading into blockbuster movie season, and you know what that means: super hero movies! Just as super heroes save the day – and sometimes the planet – the Epic electronic medical record (EMR) transformation is going to need its share of super-skilled super users to help all of us soar when we use the new EMR. Maybe you are one of them.

Super users at your elbow

As the Epic EMR project moves ever closer to [wave 1 go-live](#) in the outpatient setting, plans are in place to develop a corps of Epic super users here at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN.) "Adjusting to a new system will be challenging, but super users should make the transition easier," LVHN senior e-learning designer, Deborah Creghan, says. "Super users will provide 'at-the-elbow' support when we 'go-live' with Epic, helping colleagues make a smooth and successful transition to the EMR while minimizing patient impact."

Listen to your "spidey senses"

It's entirely possible that you are wondering, "Am I an Epic super user?" Are your spidey senses tingling? They should be! "We need a lot of super users," Creghan says. "Some qualities a super user needs include: an interest in developing expertise in the Epic EMR applications for your particular area, a desire to assist and teach others in your practice or department when they begin using Epic, and the support of your up-line supervisor."

Training for Wave 1 go-live super users will begin as early as this summer. "Super users can self-identify themselves as candidates for this important role, or may be recommended for the role," she says. "The first step is to familiarize yourself with the Epic super user program document (see PDF). It outlines the role and responsibilities of super users."

After you review [the program document](#), fill out and submit an [online application](#) expressing interest in the super user program. Your request is also sent to your manager who must approve it, as well.

After that, super users will be identified and participate in training conducted by LVHN Epic instructional designers. This training will prepare super users to assist fellow colleagues once large-scale EMR training, and ultimately go-live, begin.

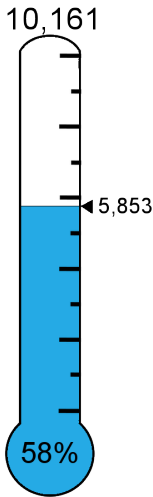
Super user alliance

After the initial go-live period, super users will continue to be key liaisons between their practice or department and the Epic project team. "They will participate in regularly scheduled meetings and will also utilize the [tiered communication structure](#) that the clinical readiness team is implementing so they can share issues, tips and changes in a timely manner," she says.

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The role of super users is critical to the success of the Epic EMR transformation, and the “Batphone” is starting to ring. “I encourage you to explore the super user program,” Cregghan says. “Together, we will make the transition to the Epic EMR successful here at Lehigh Valley Health Network.”

You’ve got a date with destiny: [February 18, 2015](#).

Keep up with news about the LVHN Epic transformation on the [LVHN Epic intranet site](#).

This entry was posted by [Jenn Fisher](#) on May 8, 2014 at 1:57 pm, and is filed under [Get News](#), [Learn](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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Aaron Katz, MD, Wants You to Lead a Healthy, Rewarding Life – VIDEO

We are producing videos of our doctors and advanced practice clinicians (APC) to help our community find trustworthy health care providers. We will share them here to introduce you to these colleagues. You'll learn about their personality, philosophy of care and inspiration for practicing medicine. These videos are embedded in our website's [Find a Doctor](#) tool, where you can learn about each provider's educational background and more. Enjoy!

As a board-certified family medicine physician who cares for people of all ages, [Aaron Katz, MD](#), is most passionate about becoming part of his patients' lives.

"As my patient I want you to know that I will do everything I can to help you, as your partner in your health care, to lead a healthy, rewarding life," he says.



He sees patients at the new [LVPG Primary Care-Fogelsville](#).

Get to know him with this video.

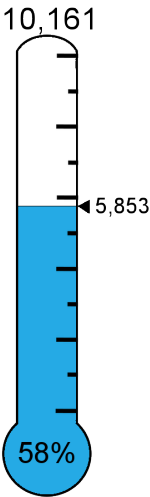
This entry was posted by [Alyssa Young](#) on May 8, 2014 at 11:39 am, and is filed under [Connect with Colleagues](#), [Watch](#). Follow any responses to this post through [RSS 2.0](#). You can [leave a response](#) or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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